

Torrance, California  
February 13, 1951

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 1951, at 8:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, Mayor Haggard presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:  
COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall.

All persons present participated in the salute to Our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Spelman moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 23rd, and the Special Meeting of February 6th, be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had come for the opening of bids on fire hose and Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following:

HARVEL'S, 1530 Cravens, Torrance .....	Jupiter Hose .....	@	\$1.75
BI-LATERAL FIRE HOSE CO., 3780			
Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles .	Bi-Lateral Hose ..	@	1.75
PIONEER RUBBER MILLS, San Francisco ...	Golden State .....	@	1.95
	Battleship .....	@	1.90
	Western .....	@	1.80
	Senator .....	@	1.75
	Underwriters .....	@	1.72
JOHN F. WARDLAW, Rivera .....	Eureka Vulcan ....	@	1.79
	Eureka State .....	@	1.63
	Eureka Pacific ...	@	1.56

Councilman Drale moved all bids be referred to the Fire Chief and City Manager for their recommendation at the next meeting, and that the local merchant be given consideration. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried. Mr. Stevens asked if a recess could be declared later in the evening to consider the bids as the order should be placed immediately, some of the hose being taken off the market. Mayor Haggard stated a recess would be declared.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Resignation of Victor E. Benstead from the Civil Service Commission. Councilman Spelman moved the resignation be accepted and a letter of "thanks" sent to Mr. Benstead in appreciation of his services. Motion, seconded by Mr. Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request from Torrance Junior Woman's Club for permission to erect booths on street corners downtown for Queen contestants for "Miss Torrance." Councilman Spelman moved request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from Housing and Home Finance Agency advising approval of the City's application for \$56,700 to improve our waterworks system. Matter of record.

Protest from the bus drivers of revocation of all passes; calling attention to violation of seniority rights; and advising of the deplorable condition of the equipment. In connection with this letter, Clerk Bartlett read a portion of a communication from the Civil Service Board recommending usual seniority procedure be followed and drivers allowed to bid for run vacated by the resignation of a driver. City Manager Stevens, in response to inquiry by the Mayor, advised established policy was to have a run "shake up" every quarter; that in this particular case, a new driver had been hired to fill the vacancy and took the run of the man he was replacing; that his recommendation, and that of the Bus Superintendent, was that run bids be had only once each quarter. Mr. Miller, Chairman of the Drivers Committee, stated that they had been assured on several occasions that if there was any specific change in schedules or something came up which would affect seniority, a shake up would be called and drivers allowed to bid on the runs. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation of the Civil Service Board. Discussion continued. There being no second, motion was declared lost. Councilman Drale moved the entire bus problem be referred to the next agenda meeting for study. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Recommendation from the Civil Service Board (1) that qualifications of Fire Chief be amended as to Education and Experience and (2) that a classification of "Assistant Plumbing Inspector" be adopted and examination approved. As to the latter recommendation, Mr. Stevens advising an Assistant Plumbing Inspector was now employed on a temporary basis. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Discussion followed pro and con as to item No. 1 with Councilman Drale stating he did not think the recommendation was fair as it would disqualify some of those eligible. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Karlow and Spelman. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

Letter from Torrance-Lomita Realty Board requesting proceedings be instituted to require all derrick owners to post liability insurance covering bodily injury and property damage. Request was occasioned by recent storm which blew down 11 derricks. Mayor Haggard stated this matter is being taken care of and ordered the letter filed as a matter of record.

Letter from American Land Company re cesspool trouble in Tract No. 15933. Councilman Blount moved letter be filed as the County is to lay a sewer line in the area. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from General Petroleum Corp. advising they had lowered the culverts paralleling 190th St. to relieve the dangerous traffic situation at 190th and Crenshaw during heavy rains, but it is their inten-

ABG940

tion to allow the culverts to remain at the lower grade only so long as the traffic emergency exists. Councilman Blount moved letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Ass'n requesting a survey be made of their drainage problem. In response to inquiry by Councilman Drale, Mr. Stevens advised such a survey would take several months and the cost would be between \$1500 and \$2000. Councilman Spelman advised he had suggested a meeting with Mr. Stevens and Mr. Hall to discuss the problem generally. He moved a letter be sent to the Homeowners Ass'n inviting them to attend such a meeting when scheduled. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from California Highway Commission advising Resolutions Nos. 2126 and 2127 would be considered by the Commission at its February meeting. Matter of record. Councilman Drale asked if someone from the City would be in Sacramento to push the issue and was advised affirmatively.

Letter from Associated Oil Co. advising no franchise earnings under Ordinance No. 127 for year ending February 1, 1951. Matter of record.

Letter from Associated Telephone Company advising amended application for adjustment in rates filed with the Public Utilities Commission. Councilman Spelman moved increase be protested. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Chamber of Commerce urging establishment of minimum living area of 750 square feet be provided in subdivision homes. Councilman Blount moved communication be referred to the Planning Commission for comment and action. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from C. T. Rippy, Chairman of Commerce & Industry Campaign, American Red Cross, requesting a "Major" be appointed to aid in the campaign. The City Clerk was instructed to notify Mr. Rippy that Councilman Drale had been appointed to assist him.

Request from K. J. Freeman for renewal of his business license to operate a used car lot. Having the approval of the Chief of Police, Councilman Blount moved the license be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request from Mrs. J. A. Corbett for permission to set a house trailer on the back of her lot at 2432 W. 203rd St. Councilman Blount moved request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Recommendations of City Manager:

#### PERSONNEL:

1. That the City Council authorize the holding of a civil service examination for a City Engineer, residence requirements to be waived, starting salary to be \$500 - \$600 per month.

Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To Barclay Surveying Co. for engineering services during the month of January, 1951, the sum of \$593.00.
2. To State Compensation Insurance Fund, for compensation insurance, the sum of \$9,991.10.
3. For the purchase of a model 1-450 Wayne Motor Pick-up Sweeper, the sum of \$9,300.00 plus sales tax, in accordance with the terms offered by the Brown Bevis Equipment Company.

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### TRAFFIC CONTROL:

That the City Attorney be authorized to prepare the necessary Ordinance to establish the following regulatory signs in accordance with the recommendations of the Traffic Commission:

1. Stop Signs:
  - (a) Two-way STOP on Cabrillo Ave. at Plaza del Amo;
  - (b) Two-way STOP on Park, Ward, Winlock and Tandem Way at Newton Street.
2. Speed Limits:
  - (a) "Entering 25-Mile Per Hour Zone" sign on Newton St. for west-bound traffic.
3. Limited Parking:
  - (a) NO PARKING at any time on east side of Crenshaw Blvd. from Dominguez to 203rd St.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from City Manager Stevens re 3 measures being sponsored by Shoreline Planning Ass'n of California. He stated that in his opinion the City should support the measures. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendations of the City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Meeting recessed at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8:53.

Letter from Mr. Lloyd, Secretary of the Planning Commission, advising the Commission recommends approval of the Variances sought in Cases Nos. 207, 208 and 209. Clerk Bartlett then read a letter from the President of the Commission requesting that Case No. 209 be resubmitted to the Commission. Councilman Karlow moved the Council concur with the recommendations in Cases Nos. 207 and 208, and that Case No. 209 be resubmitted to the Planning Commission as requested. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Mr. Lloyd submitting suggested amendment to Building Code. Copies of the suggested amendment not having been made available to the Council for study, Councilman Drale moved the matter be considered at the next agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman, Spelman, carried.

City Engineer Stevens presented his analysis of the sealed proposals submitted to him for analysis and report, naming S. S. Zarubica as the lowest responsible bidder on South Torrance Sewer District No. 2, in the amount of \$34,742.32, and recommended that the contract be awarded to S. S. Zarubica. Councilman Blount moved the Engineer's analysis and recommendation be received and filed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously. The Engineer then presented, and Clerk Bartlett read title to:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 2145

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AWARDED THE CONTRACT FOR THE IMPROVING OF ARLINGTON AVENUE AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS IN SAID CITY, IN WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE SOUTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2, BY THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION THEREIN OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND ALL OTHER ITEMS OR WORK INCIDENTAL OR APPURTENANT THERETO AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PUBLISH A NOTICE OF SAID AWARD.

ABG940

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved that Resolution No. 2145 be passed and adopted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2146

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT WARRANTS.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2146. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2147

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TERMINATING LEASE NO. 1051 BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2147. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2148

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ORDER THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR PUBLIC USE. (Lot A-15, Block 15, Torrance Tract)

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2148. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2149

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ORDER THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR PUBLIC USE. (Lot 1, Block 298, Tract 1952)

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2149. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2150

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ORDER THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR PUBLIC USE. (Lot 1, Block 125, Tract 2807)

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2150. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.



ORDINANCE NO. 550

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
 TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION, ABANDONMENT AND  
 EXTINGUISHMENT OF CERTAIN PERMANENT EASEMENTS  
 ON A PORTION OF PALOS VERDES PARKWAY.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved the ordinance be set aside and studied at the next legislative meeting of the Council. There being no second, motion was declared lost. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 550 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens recommended acceptance of the bid on fire hose submitted by Harvel -- 2½" Jupiter Hose @ \$1.75 -- and that all other bids be rejected. Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale stated he thought it unfair that employees entering military service were expected to pay up back payments in the retirement system and asked if something couldn't be done. Mr. Stevens reported that many cities were concerned with this matter and that a survey was being made of what might be done to remedy the situation.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Drale moved that any employee leaving the service of the City for military duty be entitled to receive full vacation pay. There being no second, motion was declared lost.

Mayor Haggard appointed Councilman Karlow to replace Mr. Powell on the Finance Committee, and Councilman Blount as ex-officio officer on the Recreation Commission. Councilman Drale was asked to take over the Bus Department but declined as he already has streets, sewers and garbage under his supervision.

Sherman Miller, Chairman of the Drivers' Committee, asked if a meeting could be called between the Council, the drivers, and their international union representative to discuss the grievances set forth in their letter read earlier in the evening. After a brief discussion, meeting was scheduled for Wednesday evening, February 14th.

Richard Barclay, representing Torrance Gardens, and Mr. Mallet, discussed the drainage problem in Tract 14958 and urged that the Council approve the map, subject to a letter from County Flood Control relative to a proposed sump and a letter from the corporation guaranteeing a fence around the sump, as the V.A. commitment would expire on February 17th. Discussion was had at some length. On the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, Councilman Drale moved that Tract 14958 be approved subject to a letter from the Los Angeles County Flood Control office approving the size and depth of the proposed sump and a letter from the corporation guaranteeing the erection of a six foot wire woven fence around the sump, and that in the bond, construction of the sump and erection of the fence both be mentioned. Motion seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Drale, Karlow and Haggard. Councilmen Blount and Spelman stated they did not wish to vote.

Chief of Police Stroh asked for clarification of the vacation pay problem for employees going into service. He was advised by Mayor Haggard and City Manager Stevens that at the agenda meeting on February 6th it had been agreed that anyone leaving the City to enter military service, or for any other reason, would be paid his proportionate share of vacation earned since his last vacation.

Mr. Bert Johnson, of 17219 Atkinson, on behalf of the people in that area, asked what was being done to sue Truman Browne in connec-

ABG940

tion with the lack of a fence around the sump in their tract. City Attorney Hall advised him that the matter had been referred to him and that it would be taken care of just as soon as possible. Mr. Johnson also offered the services of his group in the distribution of pamphlets on the atom bomb. Mr. Stevens stated distribution would begin this coming Saturday and that he knew Mr. Powell would appreciate any assistance.

Councilman Spelman moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:40 p.m., Councilman Blount moved meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE